## Concept: Requiring minimum level of literacy at 3rd grade

- Amend the "Colorado Basic Literacy Act" to strengthen the requirements for early interventions for students in kindergarten and first, second, and third grade, including the requirement that schools provide research-based, data-driven interventions that are proven to increase student literacy proficiency.
- Require schools to notify parents concerning their children's literacy levels and include parents in intervention planning.
- Beginning with the class of kindergarten students who start school in the fall of 2013, if a student from that class or a later class tests in the lowest tier on the CSAP reading and writing assessment, or on other literacy assessments, in the third grade, that student will be retained in third grade for the following academic year.
  - The law will make good cause exceptions for students with disabilities who do no participate in statewide assessments and limited English proficient students who have had less than 2 years of instruction in ELL.
  - The school must provide a retained student with an enhance literacy program and cannot repeat the same program the student originally had in third grade.
  - The school will notify parents as soon as possible if their child is recommended for retention, will involve the parents in planning the child's literacy program for the coming year, and will provide regular reports of the child's progress during the year he or she is retained.
- This legislation will require some reexamination and reprioritization of existing state, federal, local, and private funds to support full implementation.